Remarks

Claims 18-24 (previously mis-numbered as claims 18-22) and new claims 25 and 26 are pending in the application.

The specification has been objected to for incorporating by reference the cited references. This incorporation by reference has been removed. No particular attention is necessary to be given to any of the cited references.

Claim 18 has been objected to for informalities in Exhibit B. A corrected copy of Exhibit A and B is not provided herewith as the claim as amended above no longer contains the errors which are the subject of the Examiner's objection to the informalities of the previous claim amendment.

Claim 18 has been rejected for indefiniteness for use of the word "similar". Claim 18 has been amended to clarify that the modified compound has the same sequence as the base sequence except for the modification that has been made. Support for this amendment is found at the middle of page 9 and in Figures 2 and 3. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment overcomes the rejection.

Claim 23 (formerly numbered claim 21) has been rejected for lack of sufficient antecedent basis for the term "wherein the compounds are". Applicants believe that this rejection was intended for claim 21 (formerly numbered as the second presentation of claim 19), rather than claim 23 (formerly numbered claim 21). Claim 21 (formerly numbered as the second presentation of claim 19) has been amended to recite "wherein the compound is". Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment overcomes the rejection.

Claim 22 (formerly numbered claim 20) has been rejected for the use of the dose range of "0.1 mg per patient to about 200 mg per kg body weight per day". The basis for this rejection is that the lower and upper ends of the range are defined by different units. Applicants respectfully submit that there is no legal requirement for the same units to be used, as long as the metes and bounds of the range is clear. Applicants intend that as little as 0.1 mg of the compound be administered to the patient per day, and intend that as much as 200 mg per kg body weight per

day be administered to the patient. Applicants respectfully submit that this range is sufficiently clear.

Claim 18 has been rejected as anticipated by Hutcherson et al. Claim 18 has been amended to specify the nature of the immunomodulatory moiety. None of the recited immunomodulatory moieties are disclosed by Hutcherson et al. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment overcomes the rejection.

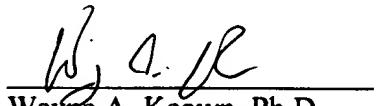
New claims 25 and 26 have been added to specifically claim a sub-type of the compounds of claim 18, the preferred compounds as shown in Figures 2 and 3.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 18-26 are ready for allowance.

Conclusion

No fees are believed to be due with this amendment. If any fees are required, the Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 50-2285. If the Examiner believes that any discussion of this communication would be helpful, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone at 781-933-6630.

Respectfully submitted,



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